

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 168738  
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APPROVED BY:IO/UNA:JFTEFFT

S/S-O:KDROBINSON

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 168738

EXDIS FROM UNA

FOLLOWING REPEAT KINSHASA 6820 ACTION SECSTATE INFO BRUSSELS,  
BONN, LONDON, AND PARIS DATED JUL 1, 1978.

QUOTE: C O N F I D E N T I A L KINSHASA 6820

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PEPR, EAID, CG, GW

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE TO MOBUTU ON REFORM: THE GERMANS FINALLY AMKE IT

REF A) KINSHASA 6429; B) BONN 11161

1. AFTER WAITING TEN DAYS FOR AN APPOINTMENT, GERMAN CHARGE  
FINALLY MADE DEMARCHE TO MOBUTU ON REFORM JUNE 29. ACCORDING TO  
CHARGE, MEETING WAS RELATIVELY BRIEF, WITH AN UNSMILING MOBUTU  
MAKING CLEAR HE WAS NOT INTERESTED IN HEARING AGAIN THE POINTS ALREADY

MADE BY FRENCH, US, BRITISH AND BELGIAN CHIEFS OF MISSION. GERMAN  
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CHARGE THEREFORE LIMITED HIS PRESENTATION TO A QUICK REVIEW  
OF POINT SEVEN OF BRUSSELS CONFERENCE CONSLUSIONS AND HANDED OVER  
COPY OF JOINTLY-AGREED MEMORANDUM. HE DID NOT RAISE ANY OF THE  
SPECIFIC ECONOMIC OR POLITICAL REFORMS CONTAINED IN THE ANNEXES DRAWN  
UP AT PARIS JUNE 5.

2. MOBUTU CAME TO LIFE TOWARD END OF MEETING WHEN CHARGE INFORMED

HIM OF FRG'S DECISION TO PROVIDE ZAIRE ON GRANT BASIS MILITARY EQUIPMENT VALUED AT DM SIX MILLION. ACCORDING TO CHARGE, EQUIPMENT WILL INCLUDE RADIO COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEM TO BE INSTALLED ALONG ZAIRIAN-ANGOLAN BORDER AS WELL AS OTHER NON-LETHAL ITEMS NOT YET DETERMINED.

3. COMMENT: AS REPORTED REF A, GERMANS WERE NOT GIVEN APPOINTMENT WITH MOBUTU WHEN OTHER REPS OF PARIS FIVE MADE THEIR DEMARCHES JUNE 19-20. WHILE REASONS STILL NOT CLEAR, GERMANS LESSER DIPLOMATIC STATUS AND MOBUTU'S IRRITATION OVER REPORTS ON DEMARCHES BY GERMAN MEDIA COULD BOTH HAVE BEEN FACTORS. CHARGE ATTRIBUTES BREAK-THROUGH TO FACT THAT FRG FOREIGN MINISTRY, ANNOYED AT LONG DELAY, CALLED IN ZAIRIAN AMBASSADOR JUNE 28 TO REQUEST EXPLANATION. IT IS EVIDENT THAT, LIKE OTHER DEMARCHES EXCEPT FOR THAT BY US, GERMANS' PITCH WAS RELATIVELY LOW-KEY. WHATEVER SOBERING EFFECT IT HAD ON MOBUTU MUST HAVE BEEN PRETTY WELL COMPENSATED BY HIS LEARNING AT THE SAME TIME THAT DM SIX MILLION WORTH OF FREE MATERIEL WILL SHORTLY BE PUT IN THE PIPELINE. GERMAN CHARGE HAS CLEARLY LABELED THIS AS MILITARY ASSISTANCE, WHICH SEEMS TO CONTRAST WITH FRG EFFORTS REPORTED REF B TO PLACE THIS AID IN NON-MILITARY CONTEXT.

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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